

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of May 31, 2007 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

### ***Regarding Amendment***

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that each printhead module has a plurality of printing nozzle rows which span the relatively different printing widths, such that the page width printhead defined by the adjacent modules has printing nozzle rows formed by the adjacent rows of the adjacent modules, where there is at least one row for printing each ink color of a plurality of ink colors. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, in section 7.1.2 entitled "Bi-Lithic Printhead" at page 27, in section 9.1 entitled "Printing Rates" at page 42 and in sections 32.3, 32.4 and 32.4.1 respectively entitled "Data Rate Equalization", "Dot Generate and Transmit Order" and "Dual Printhead IC" at pages 518-520 of the present specification;

dependent claim 2 is amended to conform with amended claim 1; and

dependent claims 3 and 4 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

### ***Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections***

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-4 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by newly cited Madeley (US 6,637,860) in view of any one or more of previously cited Teshigawara, Hackleman and Kamoshida, for at least the following reasons.

As discussed above, independent claim 1 has been further amended to make it clear that the adjacent different width printhead nodules form a pagewidth printhead having printing nozzle rows of the same ink color across the pagewidth. In this way, the printhead appears continuous across the page width (see section 7.1.2 entitled "Bi-Lithic Printhead" at page 27, in section 9.1 entitled "Printing Rates" at page 42 and in sections 32.3, 32.4 and 32.4.1 respectively entitled "Data Rate Equalization", "Dot Generate and Transmit Order" and "Dual Printhead IC" at pages 518-520 of the present specification).

On the other hand, Madeley merely discloses individual printheads, one each for printing a different ink color, which define either a partial page width printhead or a pagewidth printhead. There is no disclosure or suggestion in Madeley that several printheads for each ink color are to be adjacently arranged to form the pagewidth printhead (see col. 7, lines 32-58 and col. 12, line 64-col. 13, line 20 of Madeley).

Further, Teshigawara merely discloses a scanning recording head in which the black ink nozzle columns are longer than the other colored ink nozzle columns. As can be seen from Fig. 4 of Teshigawara, these different length nozzle columns are arranged as a scanning recording head, not as a page width printhead (see paragraphs [0002], [0048], [0050] and [0051] of Teshigawara).

Furthermore, neither Hackleman nor Kamoshida makes up for these deficiencies in Madeley and Teshigawara for at least the above-discussed reasons and those discussed by the Applicant in the Replies to the previous Office Actions.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicants:

  
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